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McCarthy at FDU:

'Let's Cut Back Some in Vietnam'

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TEANECK — Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota, the Vietnam dove who has threatened to challenge President Johnson in some presidential primaries in order to give the voters a chance to express their opinion, addressed an enthusiastic crowd of students at Fairleigh Dickinson University here yesterday.

His only bad moment came when he mispronounced the name of the institution. A voice from the audience corrected him. The students ap-

plauded and cheered him when he spoke of re-thinking U.S. policy in Vietnam, of stopping the bombing of Hanoi and Haiphong and of cutting down the influence of the Pentagon and the CIA in foreign policy decision-making.

McCarthy, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, had already been invited to speak about the role of the Senate in foreign policy before his announcement two weeks ago that he might enter some primaries against the President.

McCarthy said the resolution Thursday by the Foreign Relations Committee to impose restraints on foreign commitments made by the president was "an important preliminary step that should be followed by much more concern in Congress."

Now, he said, "We must debate a moral judgment on our involvement in Vietnam," and he added that the debate should come within the Democratic Party.

"I think the issue of Vietnam and the issues that arise because of it must be taken to the electorate in presidential primaries," he said, noting that a personal identification for the "dove" point of view was more effective than a proposition on the ballot.

"I am not eager to do this alone," he said. "I have been inviting other politicians to join me. I don't see that at this stage it is a responsibility that falls on me alone. I would like to see others run as favorite sons."

During a question period McCarthy was asked what his policy in Vietnam would be.

"I suggest that we try some kind of withdrawal in Vietnam," he said, to the cheers

of students. "Let's cut back somewhat and see what happens."

McCarthy said his thought of running in primaries would not be put off by the notion that it might be bad for the Democratic Party or give "joy in Hanoi." But, he said, the thought that he might be responsible for the election of Ronald Reagan was "enough to make anyone pause."

"My hope is that there will not be a third party movement, and that we can make the test within the party, itself," he said.

While it is still indefinite that McCarthy will actually carry out his threat to oppose the President in primaries, his stand was patently popular with the students who jammed into the Student Commons to hear him. An overflow crowd heard a broadcast of the talk in the snack bar of the building.

"They should have held this in the gym," one student said, "but they were afraid it would look half-empty. They should have known everybody on campus would want to hear him."



Sen. Eugene McCarthy: Will He Run?
(Herald-News Photo by Tom Lynch)